ABSTRACT

In a high data rate communication system, a method and apparatus for efficiently establishing a connection between an access terminal and an access network using a fast access channel and a fast access indicator. Upon receiving a fast access indicator in response to a fast access probe, an access terminal begins transmitting a traffic channel signal containing data rate control (DRC) information. The DRC information is used by the access network to transmit messages such as a traffic channel assignment message at the requested DRC rate.

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